

11 DEC 1952

TO: Acting Deputy Director/Intelligence
FROM: Acting Assistant Director for Research and Reports
SUBJECT: ORR Project for External Research
REFERENCE: CIA Regulation 5-3

I. Problem

To obtain approval for the expenditure of funds [REDACTED] for 25X1A the services of [REDACTED], who will undertake, on a part-25X1A5a1 time basis, an external research project relative to the study of Soviet grain.

II. Discussion

1. The purpose of this project is to fill a current gap in our intelligence by doing research which will provide a comparison of the yielding qualities of grain sown in the Soviet Union after the 1933 Orders, which required the shift to approved, selected varieties of grain, (using the years 1937-41); with the yielding qualities of grain sown in the Soviet Union prior to 1933 (using the years 1925-1933). This information is required to determine whether the Soviet Union can achieve the planned goals as well as their future capabilities.

2. The project will provide the following:

- a. For each of the two periods (1925-33 and 1937-41) an estimate as to the total acreage sown in each of the major grains, and, insofar as possible, other grains.
- b. The regions in which various varieties are grown.
- c. For each variety, for each of the two periods, the yield per hectare.
- d. All available evidence on the actual yields achieved during the second period, as opposed to the first period (noting the effect of collectivization on the yield and acreage).
- e. What the expectations are for the future of Soviet agriculture and how mechanization will effect it.
- f. The reliability of current Soviet literature on grain production.

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3. What the governmental administrative relationships are between the Agriculture Institutes and their experimental stations (especially the seed breeding and testing stations to the Ministry of Agriculture, Gosplan, etc.)

2. Central Intelligence Agency will supply all obtainable, unclassified books, periodicals, papers and all classified materials which can be released for the source's work.

4. The source will submit the work in Russian and it will be translated by Central Intelligence Agency.

5. Funds to cover the cost of the research are provided for in the Office of Research and Reports budget. This project has been coordinated in accordance with Central Intelligence Agency Regulation 50-17. [REDACTED]

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25X1A [REDACTED] will make the necessary contract arrangements for this research.

III. Recommendations

25X1A5a1 That the Office of Research and Reports be authorized to contract the services of [REDACTED] to undertake the above project at the remuneration [REDACTED] for an initial contract of [REDACTED] with the possibility that the quality of performance and the prospects of future contribution may justify an extension.

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That the Comptroller be advised accordingly.

/s/

[REDACTED] 25X1A9a

Concurrence:

/s/

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Approved:

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